

## Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

OMB-01 AID-20 EUR-25 RSR-01 /140 W  
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R 290325 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 913

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

S E C R E T SAIGON 7426

EO 118652 GDS

TAGS MILI MOPS CB VS

SUBJECT: VC/ NVA REPORTEDLY MOVE FORCES TO GVN MR III

FOL SENT SAIGON FM CAN THO AND RPTD FOR YOUR INFO QTE:

S E C R E T CAN THO 0251

E. O. 11652: GDS 1981

TAGS: MILI, MOPS, CB, VS

SUBJECT: VC/ NVA REPORTEDLY MOVE FORCES TO GVN MR III

REF: CAN THO 0237, 0215

1. SUMMARY: IN THE REFERENCED CABLES, THE CONSULATE GBDVLMBLWX REPORTED THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE E-1 AND E-3 REGIMENTS OF THE NVA 5 TH DIVISION FROM NORTHERN DINH TUONG PROVINCE FOR CAMBODIA. THE MR IV CHIEF OF STAFF, BGEN HYNH VAN LAC AND THE G-2, LTC LE NGUYEN BINH, TOLD A CONSULATE GENERAL OFFICER APRIL 27 THAT THE TWO REGIMENTS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF JOINING THE 205- R REGIMENT SOUTHEAST OF KOMPONG TRABEK FOR A BRIEF PERIOD OF ARMOR AND INFANTRY TRAINING PRIOR TO THEIR INSERTION THROUGH THE PARROT'S BEAK INTO THE TAY NINH- HAU NGHIA BORDER AREA OF GVN MR III. IF THE REPORT IS ACCURATE, THE LIKELIHOOD OF VC/ NVA OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN NORTHERN GVN MR IV

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IS REDUCED BUT THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED ACTIVITY IN MR III IS

GREATER. END SUMMARY.

2. THE MR IV CHIEF OF STAFF AND G-2 TOLD A CONSULATE GENERAL OFFICER A NVA " RALLIER" WAS PICKED UP APRIL 25 IN PHU LAM OUTSIDE SAIGON. ACCORDING TO THE G-2 THE RALLIER, AN NVA COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST, TWENTY YEARS OF AGE, DESERTED THE NVA 5 TH DIVISION IN NORTHERN CAI LAY DISTRICT OF DINH TUONG ON APRIL 23. HE MADE HIS WAY BY FOOT TO CAI LAY DISTRICT TOWN AND FROM THERE BY BUS TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF SAIGON WHERE HE WAS APPREHENDED BY NATIONAL AND MILITARY POLICE.

3. THE RALLIER, PREVIOUSLY WITH THE 5 TH NVA'S COMMUNICATION INTERCEPT GROUP, THE B-98, REPORTED IN SAIGON HE HAD READ ORDERS DIRECTING THE E-1 AND E-3 REGIMENTS TO PROCEED TO A LOCATION SOUTHEAST

OF KOMPONG TRABEK ( WT 7421) WHERE THEY WOULD JOIN A COSVN RESERVE UNIT, THE 205- R REGIMENT. ( WT 7421 DOES LIE ASTRIDE A TRADITIONAL VC/ NVA COMMO- LIAISON ROUTE.) TOGETHER THE THREE REGIMENTS WOULD TRAIN WITH ARMOR. THE ARMOR AND THE THREE REGIMENTS WOULD AT SOME UNSPECIFIED TIME BE INSERTED THROUGH THE PARROT'S BEAK INTO THE TAY NINH- HAU NGHIA BORDER AREA WHERE THEY WOULD CONDUCT OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS.

4. IMR IV G-2 ESTIMATES THE MOVE INTO GVN MR III COULD TAKE PLACE SOMETIME BETWEEN MAY 7 AND 19 TH WITH ATTACKS COMMENCING ALMOST IMMEDIATELY. THE E-1 IS ALREADY IN CAMBODIA AND THE E-3 IS MOVING THROUGH KIEN PHONG TO THE DESIGNATED CAMBODIAN TRAINING SITE. THE DATES CHOSEN BY LTC BINH ARE THE ANNIVERSARIES OF DIEN BIEN PHU AND HO CHI MINH'S BIRTHDAY.

5. THE G-2 GIVES THE RALLIER HIGH MARKS FOR ACCURACY. THE G-2 FURTHER NOTES THAT IN THE LAST TWO DAYS THE Z-15 REGIMENT, NORMALLY POSITIONED SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 4 IN DINH TUONG HAS MOVED NORTH INTO THE TRI PHAP BASE AREA. AT THE SAME TIME FROM TWO OUTPOST OVERRUNS IN NORTHERN SAM GIANG - CAI LAY DISTRICTS, THE G-2 BELIEVES THE NVA E-24 HAS LEFT ITS POSITION NORTH OF MY THO TO OCCUPY THE AP BAC AREA.

6. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO WAY OF VERIFYING MR IV'S ANALYSIS OF THE RALLIER REPORT. IT WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE IN CAN THO FOR  
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THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS. IF THE VIETNAMESE ESTIMATE IS ACCURATE, VC/ NVA PRESSURE IN DINH TUONG WILL SUBSIDE AND NO NEW FORCES WILL BE DISPATCHED TO THE HONG NGU CAMPAIGN. BARNESUNQUOTE  
BUNKER

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NMAFVVZCZ

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